## THE NEW YORK HERALD.

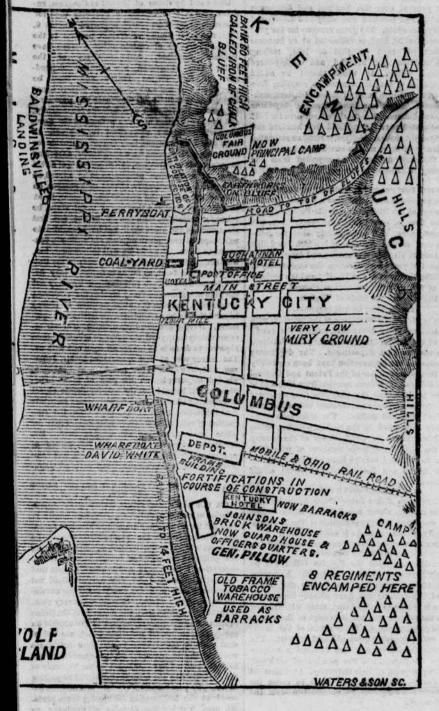
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PRICE TWO CENTS.

## THE MISSISSIPPI AND ITS REBEL FORTIFICATIONS, FROM COLUMBUS, KY., TO MEMPHIS, TENN.

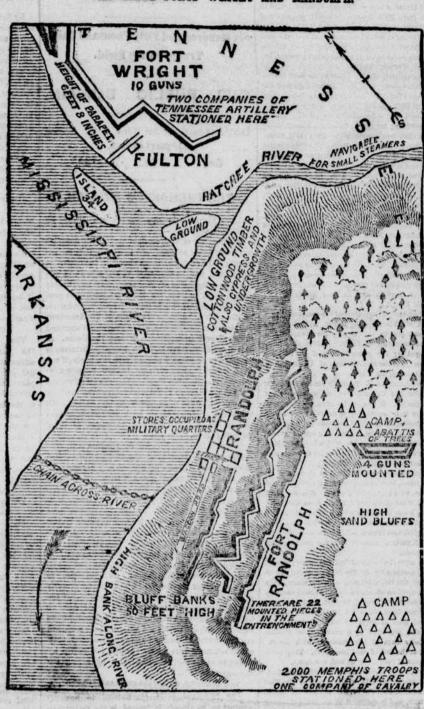
MAP OF COLUMBUS, KY., SHOWING THE RESEL FORTIFICATIONS.



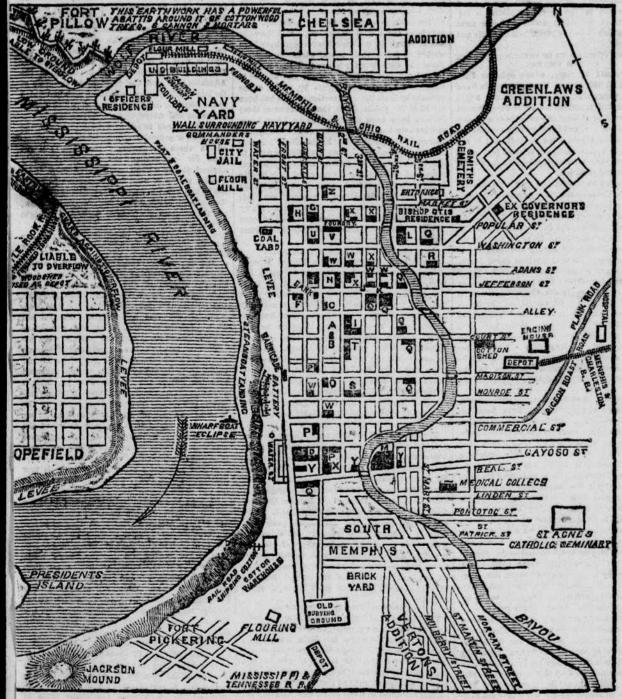
THE REBEL FORT HARRIS.



THE REBEL FORTS WRIGHT AND RANDOLPH.



MAP OF MEMPHIS AND THE REBEL FORT PILLOW



rt square.
tue of Jackson, with the legend, "The Union shall be preserved."
I Fellows' Hall.

yoso Honse.
raham Bouse.
nmercial House.

rton House.
hange Building, used for municipal purposes.
ag Block (ireu), used as Commissary Depayt-

J.—Post Office.

K.—New theatre.

L.—Poplar Market.

M.—Beale street Market.

W—Beale street Market.

N—Adams' Block (irou), used as a government clothing factory.

O—Brinkley's Block, used as a government shoe fac-

tery.

PP—Gayose Block and another building, used as government shee factories.

Q—Cotton warehouses.

R-State Female Seminary.
S-Gun carriage factory.

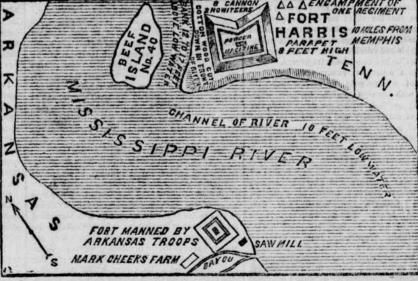
S.—Gun carriage factory.

T.—Montserrat iron block, used as drill room for Ho Guard.

U—Ashe's old theatre,
V—Planters' House,
W—Negro marts,

X—Churches.
Y—lcohouses.
Z—Hospitals.

MAP OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.



THE MISSISSIPPI EXPEDITION.

What It Will Have to Meet and Overcome.

The Rebel Fortifications on the Mississippi.

Sketches of Columbus, Forts Wright, Randolph and Harris, and of Memphis and Its Defences, &c., &c., &c.

An expedition that, in point of military strength, throws completely into the shade that which, under Com. Dapont and Gen. Sherman, has given us possession of Port Royal and the control of the Southern coast, is preparing, it is said, to make its way down the Mississippi from St. Louis and Cairo. The mayal portion of it will consist of eleven gunboate, mounting over a hundred heavy guns, thirty eight floating batteries, each corrying a sixty four pound columbiad, and twenty-eight river stem louts. Immense numbers of heavy guns and ordnance stores, for the use of the expedition, have been for some time past accumulating at Cairo, and the greatest energy is manifested by the officers entrusted with the preparations in carrying them forward in the quickest and most effective

manner.

The naval part of the expedition is to be under the command of Commodere Foote, and that officer is now superintending the construction and armament of the graduats. It is believed that the military portion of it will be confided to the charge of Major General Halleck, who is now at the head of the Western Department. He is organizing a powerful army at St. Louis, which will be joined by the columns under General Grant at Cairo, and that of General Smith at Paducah. The aggregate number of the army that will move down the Misnissippi (by land and water) is stated at from eighty to one hundred thousand men.

The maps of the Mississippi river and its fortifications, which we publish in connection with this article, will facilitate a proper understanding of the difficulties which the expedition will be called upon to surmount, and of the objects to be accomplished by R.

COLUMBUS, MY.

The first and perhaps greatest feat that it will have to

perform will be the sile using of the rebel forts at Columbus, and the defent and dispersion of the large rebel army there concentrated. That is the most northerly point on the Missinspip held by the rebels, and they have taken great pains in strengthening it to the utmost of their abilities. In this they have been favored by the fact of their having control of the lower Missinspip from this point to New Orleans, and by the possession

of great lines of railroad communication connecting Cairo and New Orleans. These are the New Orleans and Jack, son and the Mississippi Central railways, forming an atmost direct line running parallel with the Mississippi river on its castern bank, at an average distance of some fifty or sixty miles from its devices course. The distance by this route from New Orleans to Columbus is 520 miles, while by water it is about 1,000. At a very early period in the rebellion the occupation and fortification of Columbus were determined upon; but the neutral attitute which Kentucky assumed, and the desire of the rebel leaders to avoid giving offence to that State, on which they relied for stores and provisions, operated for some time as

checks to carrying out that design.

At length, however, seeing that these supplies were in danger of being cut off by the watchfulness and loyalty of Collector (otton, and that a strict blockade was about to be enforced in Kentucky, they cast aside their scruples and took military occupation of Colembus, offering, as an excess, that they apprehended a disregard of Kentucky's declared neutrality by the federal government, and were therefore justified in anticipating it.

The rebels immediately set about forifying folumbus, and have gradually accumulated a large army exps there. A little northward of the town, upon a ledge of chalk bleifs, called from Bank, they have exceted extensive earthworks, and are continuing further fortifications. They have also been engaged in putting up earthworks a little below the town, near the depot of the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, and immediately on the bank of the river. The map of Columbus, which we publish, points out the locality of these fortifications very distinctly, and also shows the position of the encampments. The high banks of the river offer great natural advantages of defence against an attack by water; but it is not to be presumed that an attacking force will confine itself to movements on the river. A large ferce will probably be landed above Columbus, which will storm the batteries in the rear

while the gunbeats ergage them in front.

General Fillow has been, and we believe still is, in command of the rebels at this point. Back of the intrenchments at the lower end of the town is an encampment of eight regiments, and in the upper part, upon the summit of the chalk bluff that stands at the water's edge, there are some fourteen regiments encamped. At least this was the force stationed there some weeks since; but it has doubtless been very much auguented since then. At that time the troops were all from Tennessee, with the

exception of one regiment from Louisiana, two foun Mississippi and one from Arkansas. The regiments, however, were not numerically strong, and much sickness existed among them. The sick are generally sent to Memphis, the reening time there by railroad being nine hours.

POATS WRIGHT AND RANDOLPH.

The next fortifications of any importance on the Missiaalph river, of which we have any knowledge, are some
fifty or sixty nules above Memphis, on what are shown
as the First and Second Chickasaw Binds. They are some
ten nules apart, being separated by the Hatcher river,
which is navigable for some distance by small steamers.
For Wright is the more technically one. It has ten guan

mounted, and two computies of Tonnessee artiflery are

stationed there.

Fort Randolph is a very extensive fortification, is heavily armed, and is defended by a garrison of several thousand men, including a company of flying artiflery. It is built in terrace tashion, along the ledges of the Second Chickasaw Bluff, and looks comewhat like an ancient amplitheatre, rising gradually to the summit of the bluff. It has three tiers of works. The indiffering a labyriatione earthwork, mounting very heavy gobs. It stands about thirty feet above the water level. There are in all twenty-two goes mounted here, of which four are sixty-four pounders and eight thirty two pounders. They turn on rectangular platforms, and seem to be in very good working order. At a whole, the fort is a perfect maze of earthworks, epaulements, safely redoubts and powder magazines, the whole before the result of General Pillow's brilliant talents in engineering. They have also a heavy whath structhed across the river, designed to bring vessels to a dead stop in front of the batteries.

About the same time that Randolph—a miserable little village, containing only some twenty dilapidated frame buildings, now used by the soldiery—was occupied by Tennessee troops, two Arkanses regiments proceeded from Little Rock to Mound City, five nules above Momphis, on the opposite side, and there commenced fortifications, as also at Osceola, some twenty-five miles above Randolph. But these latter have bush entirely abandoned, and the battery handed over to General Price's command.

FORT PARRIS.

FORT PARRIS.

Fort Harris is situated on the Tennessee side of the Mississippi, at a bend of the river, some ten miles above Memphis. The accompanying map illustrates its position, and gives an idea of its form. The bend of the river is known to pilots as Paddy's Hen and Chickens. The bank on which the fort stands is only some twelve or fourteen feet high. The fort is masked by very thick and high timber. On the west and north sides the timber has been out down, forming a powerful abatis. The revetment looks to be very firm, sod and weeds constituting its material. The parapet is eight feet in height, the interior slope being two and a half feet. This fort mougts eight thirty two pounders, besides some small metars. The embankment is some eighty feet from the river.

MEMPHIS AND ITS DEFENCES. Perhaps no Southern city felt to a more pernicious and blasting extent the destructive service of secession than did the prosperous city of Memphis, on the Mississippi. She had been the sucond most important cotten mart of the South. No less than twelve regular packet and mail lipes, embracing over forty steamboats, brought trade to her mercantile and industrial classes, and travellers to her hotels. He population comprised the individual en corprising element of the North to an extent that told advantageously on her prosperity; and she bid fair to become, and was fast becoming, the rival of St. Louis. That it all now a thing of the past. Her commerce is at an end; her industry, except in branches connected with the war, is utterly rulned; her industrial classes are either d iven away Northward or absorbed in the rebel army-in a word, her prosperity is brought to nought. The frenzy of hate and bloodthiretiness which has seized on the Southern mind is nowhere more developed and manifested than at Memphis. Rights of property are entinely disregarded. The press gang was so outrageous in its operations as to call for the interference of the Mayor, who could only promise protection to the wearers of clean shirts. Goods are taken from the stores in spite of the wishes of their owners, and Confederate bonds are all the security that merchants receive. But woe to the traitor who should venture to refere this currency. And all this ruin, outrage, violence and desolation have been raught upon the citizens of Memphis because they had